

Message Text

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53

ACTION SCCT-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 SP-02 OC-05 PRS-01 SS-15 USIE-00 USSS-00

SY-05 FAA-00 WRD-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 PM-04 /091 W

----- 041070

O 271315Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3568

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSYBONN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 3775

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEC, ASEC, AU

SUBJECT:OPEC KIDNAPPING FROM VIENNA

1. AM RELIABLY INFORMED THAT GERMANS HAVE BEEN TOLD OFFICIALLY, VIA INTERPOL CHANNEL, THAT ALL FIVE TERRORISTS INVOLVED IN OPEC KIDNAPPING HAVE LEFT ALGERIA. GERMANS HAD BEEN ATTEMPTING FIND OUT WHETHER THERE MORE THAN ONE GERMAN IN GROUP. THEIR EMBASSY HERE HAD NO LUCK WITH GOA, BUT REPLY APPARENTLY SENT TO BUNDESKRIMINALAMT IN WIESBADEN DECEMBER 26 OR 27.

2. IT HAS BEEN GENERALLY ASSUMED HERE THAT RELEASE OF TERRORISTS WOULD BE PART OF BARGAIN ALGERIANS HAD TO MADE IN ORDER SECURE RELEASE OF CAPTIVES. WE CAN EXPECT DEFENSIVE REACTION TO ANY FOREIGN CRITICISM OF THEIR ACTIONS. DIRECTOR OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS ALREADY COMPLAINED TO GERMANS ABOUT UN-SYMPATHETIC TREATMENT ALGERIANS RECEIVED ON THIS MATTER FROM WASHINGTON POST (WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING POUCHED COPIES ANY CRITICISMS IN US PRESS).

SIMILARLY, BOUTEFLIKA WAS ASKED AT AIRPORT ABOUT ALGERIAN INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TERRORISTS AND REPLIED THAT NO ONE HAD CONSULTED ALGERIANS ABOUT SAHARA AND THEY FELT NO OBLIGATION CONSULT

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ANYONE ELSE ABOUT THIS MATTER.

3. COMMENT: WHILE THERE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE CONSIDERABLE CRITICISM OF ALGERIAN RELEASE OF TERRORISTS, HOPE USG CAN AVOID ANY COMMENT ON MATTER. ALGERIANS HAD VERY DIFFICULT TASK TO PERFORM. THEY WERE ABLE TO SECURE RELEASE OF CAPTIVES UNHARMED ONLY BECAUSE OF THEIR REVOLUTIONARY CREDENTIALS AND THEIR WILLINGNESS STRIKE A DEAL. GOOD DEAL OF HARD BARGAINING OBVIOUSLY INVOLVED BEFORE THAT POINT REACHED. ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF DEAL, IT APPEARS, WERE PUBLICATION OF TERRORIST' COMMUNIQUE AND, EVENTUALLY, SAFE CONDUCT. FOR ALGERIANS TO GO BACK ON THEIR WORD NOW WOULD DESTROY THEIR CREDIBILITY. THEY FEEL THEIR ACTIONS NECESSARY TO SAVE HUMAN LIVES AND WILL STRONGLY RESENT ABLY CARPING ABOUT ROLE THEY PLAYED.PARKER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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